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BRITISH-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION,
FOR
EMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION.

*At a Meeting of the CONSULTING COUNCIL,
held at the House of the Association,
29, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars,
London, 8th June, 1842.*

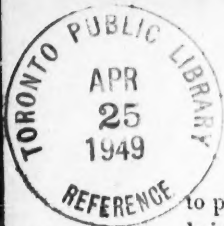
The President, His Grace the DUKE OF ARGYLL,
in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting of Council, held on the 29th of April, the Most Noble the MARQUESS OF DOWNSHIRE in the Chair, were read and confirmed.

The Minutes of the Meetings held in Edinburgh and Glasgow on the 24th and 27th ult., having the Signatures of the Lord Provosts of these Cities, were laid on the table.

The following REPORT from the Board of Commissioners was then read:—

The Commissioners report—That in accordance with the Resolution of the last Meeting of the Consulting Council, a Deputation proceeded to Edinburgh, on the 17th ultimo; when the objects of the Association having been explained to the Right Honourable Sir James Forrest, Bart., the Lord Provost of the City, his lordship consented to convene a public Meeting in furtherance of them, and



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to preside thereat; and the Deputation having had the honour of being introduced to the Most Noble the Marquess of Bute, Her Majesty's Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, His Grace was pleased to state the great interest which he felt in the Association, and to intimate his desire to have his name added to the list of Vice-Presidents.

That a Meeting was held at the Royal Hotel, Edinburgh, on the 24th ultimo; at which, the Lord Provost, upon taking the Chair, stated that it had been convened in consequence of a Resolution to that effect passed at a Meeting of the Consulting Council of the Association; and he expressed his hearty concurrence in the objects for which the Institution had been formed, considering the great and urgent distress which prevailed in Scotland from a redundant and unemployed population. These views were reiterated by the Hon. Sir W. M. Napier, Bart., the Convener of the County of Renfrew; whereupon it was moved by Dr. Alison, seconded by Sir William Drysdale, and unanimously resolved—That the state of destitution in Scotland, which has been gradually increasing from the Peace, has reached an extent which demands the immediate attention of the Government, and of all other persons in Scotland interested in the moral and social welfare of the industrious classes.

2nd. It was moved by Dr. Thomas Rolph, Government Agent for Emigration for Canada, and seconded by Sir Allan Napier Macnab, Speaker of the late Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada, and unanimously resolved—That Her Majesty's possessions in British-America present an inexhaustible outlet for the redundant population of the United Kingdom, whilst it is matter of national importance that their great resources should be made available.

3rd. It was moved by R. Broun, Master of Colstoun, seconded by the Hon. Sir John Campbell, Bart., and unanimously resolved—That the British-American Association for Emigration and Colonization is entitled to public confidence and support, as an Institution calculated materially to advance the opulence, prosperity, and peace of the Mother Country and the Colony.

4th. It was moved by the Very Rev^d Principal Mac Farlane, seconded by the Rev^d Dr. Aiton, and unanimously resolved—That Contributions to the Benevolent Fund of the Association shall be solicited, for the purpose of aiding in the erection of Churches, Schools, and such other charitable foundations as concern the religious and moral welfare of our British-American fellow subjects.

5th. It was moved by Isaac Buchanan, Esq., Member of the Legislative Assembly of Canada, seconded by the Hon. Sir W. Dunbar, Bart., of Mochrum, and unanimously resolved—That the Right Honourable the Lord Provost shall be requested to allow his name to be added to the Consulting Council of the Association, and accept the thanks of the Meeting for presiding upon the occasion.

Whereupon the Lord Provost, on leaving the Chair, conveyed the thanks of the Meeting to the Deputation, and expressed his entire acquiescence in the wish that he should become one of the Consulting Council of so important an Association.

And the Commissioners further report—That the Deputation having proceeded to Glasgow, where it was joined by the other Member, Mr. Andrews, it was introduced to the Right Honourable Sir James Campbell, the Lord Provost of that City, and other influential persons connected with its trade and manufactures, when the Lord Provost at once acceded to the wish conveyed to him, that he should convene and preside at a public Meeting to take the objects of the Association into consideration; and a Meeting was accordingly convened to be holden at the Town Hall of the City, on the 27th ultimo,—which was numerously attended.

That the Lord Provost, on taking the Chair, stated the object of the Meeting, and expressed himself strongly in favour of a systematic plan of Emigration to British North America, as an effectual means of relieving the distress of the Labouring Classes in the West of Scotland; after which the following Resolutions were successively moved, discussed, put to the Meeting, and carried without a dissentient voice:—

1st. Moved by Mr. Sheriff Alison, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. Norman Macleod—That the destitution of Glasgow, the manufacturing districts of the West of Scotland, and the Highlands generally, has reached an appalling character and extent, and cannot, in the opinion of the Meeting, be effectually remedied by any measure short of Emigration on a national scale.

2nd. Moved by Sir Allan Napier Macnab, and seconded by Dr. Rolph—That the resources of our British-American provinces, if drawn out by an extensive infusion into them of capital and population, will afford an immediate and effectual remedy for the distress prevalent in the United Kingdom from redundant labour.

3rd. Moved by W. Andrews, Esq., and seconded by the Hon. Sir John Cunninghame Fairlie, Bart.,—That the British-American Association, which has been formed for these combined objects, is entitled to the support of all persons in the Kingdom desirous of advancing the moral and general welfare of the Labouring Classes.

4th. Moved by R. Broun, Master of Colstoun, and seconded by W. Murray, Esq.—That the Rev. Dr. Norman Macleod, whose great exertions in the cause of his suffering fellow-countrymen in the Western Highlands and Islands of Scotland, in the year 1837, was so instrumental in raising a sum of upwards of £100,000. sterling to rescue them from starvation, and Mr. Sheriff Alison, whose warmest exertions have long been conspicuously directed to the relief of distress in Great Britain, and the advancement of her Colonial interests, be requested to allow their names to be added to the Consulting Council of the Association.

5th. Moved by the Hon. Sir W. A. Maxwell, Bart., and seconded by William Houston, Esq., of Johnstone Castle—That the Lord Provost be requested to allow his name to be added to the Consulting Council, and to accept the best thanks of the Meeting for presiding thereat.

Whereupon Dr. Macleod, Mr. Sheriff Alison, and the Lord

Provost, severally stated their willingness to act on the Consulting Council, and to give the Association every aid in carrying out its objects.

And the Commissioners further report, that on the evening of the same day Dr. Rolph and Mr. Andrews, two of the Deputation, attended a Meeting at the town of Paisley, convened to take into consideration the state of the industrial classes, which, in consequence of the great number congregated, was adjourned from the Council Chamber to the Town Hall; that the Provost presided at the Meeting, supported by many of the leading Clergymen and Manufacturers of the district; and after the objects and plans of the Association had been fully discussed and considered, a variety of Resolutions, approving of them, and pledging the persons present to support the undertaking, were proposed and unanimously adopted.

And the Commissioners further report, that they have formed Committees, and appointed Agents, in aid of the Association in the City of Glasgow, and at Paisley: that they shall immediately proceed to the appointment of a Committee, and an Agent, in the City of Edinburgh, and in the other principal Towns of Scotland, from which they intend to emanate parochial Associations in the respective districts, to secure the co-operation of the working clergy in aid of the Institution.

And the Commissioners report, that they are making arrangements, in concert with a Member of the Board, Dr. Rolph, in his character of Agent for Emigration to Canada, to extend the operations of the Association throughout England and Ireland, from which they anticipate the most beneficial results to the Association, and to the industrial classes of the community.

The Commissioners now necessarily direct the attention of the Meeting to the state of the Association, and to the means adopted to advance its interests and its influence, with a just regard to the

beneficial employment of its capital, the application of its resources, and the direct promotion of the important objects for which it was formed—the furtherance of Emigration—the proper colonization of the lands it shall from time to time acquire—and the advancement of the social condition of the industrial classes.

The whole of the arrangements which necessarily precede the announcement of a great public undertaking have been matured, and some important arrangements have been made in East Canada, and also in Prince Edward's Island, to acquire tracts of country for immediate location and settlement; the Commissioners having, in their negotiations, had especial reference to the interests of the Emigrants to be intrusted to their care, and to the economical application of the capital of the undertaking.

The attention of the Commissioners was directed, in the first instance, to Eastern Canada, where they have negotiated for the acquirement of four Seignories and other adjoining properties, containing about 200,000 acres of land; and they have the gratification to report, that these properties are eminently calculated, by position and fertility, for the location of a body of yeomen and labourers of a superior order; that the Estates are in the direct vicinity of other located lands, at an easy distance from a river capable of navigation, adjoining to roads already formed, and within forty miles of the town of Montreal; that mills and other conveniences have been erected, and that the whole of the Estates are susceptible of cultivation, and may be brought into a productive state in a comparatively short space of time.

The Commissioners likewise report, that the pecuniary arrangements connected with these purchases, have been entered into with a due regard to the nature of the property and the interests of the Association, it having been agreed that one-third of the purchase money shall be paid in the first and second years after the date of the agreement; possession to be given upon payment of the first instalment, and the remaining two-thirds of the whole amount to be covered by Shares in the permanent Stock of the Association;

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with the express understanding, that none of the Shares shall be disposed of except with the authority of the Board, and through the Broker of the Association, for a period of three years.

The Commissioners likewise report, that they have reason to anticipate they shall be able to cover nearly the whole of the first cash payment for their Estates in East Canada by a well arranged system of Emigration, with the object to their location and settlement in the ensuing year.

The Commissioners have not omitted that attention to Western or Upper Canada which the character of the district particularly demands, but having availed themselves of the local knowledge and eminent position of Sir Allan Macnab, to whom, as Chief Commissioner, the superintendence of the whole of the Estates of the Association in British North America will be intrusted, they content themselves, and they feel confident the Meeting will appreciate the motives which influence them not to dilate farther on the subject, with stating that arrangements have been made, through which very extensive tracts of country will be acquired in the Western Province, through the instrumentality of Sir Allan Macnab, at a minimum price; and that he has undertaken to place permanently a considerable portion of the capital Stock of the Association in Canada at par, subject to a condition against transfer, except with the authority of the Board, and through the Broker of the Association, for the period of three years.

That inexhaustible source of wealth, the Fisheries of the American Seas, have engaged the anxious attention of the Board; and the Commissioners report, that the arrangements they have already made, and the negotiations they have in progress, justify them in declaring, that at the same time that they shall be able to plant a large tract of country in Prince Edward's Island with a body of Agriculturists, they cannot fail to succeed in creating a rivalry to the citizens of the United States, who at present avail themselves of the riches of the British-American Seas, to the prejudice of British subjects and British enterprize, by the establishment of a Fishery



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at Holland Bay, for the purchase of the land surrounding which the Commissioners have agreed.

Various other extensive properties in East Canada, a tract of country bordering upon New Brunswick and East Canada, and several Estates in Prince Edward's Island, have been selected by the Commissioners for future consideration—most of which are valuable from their contiguity to the properties already agreed for, and fitted for other extended operations of the Association: none of them, will, however, be purchased until the Agents of the Commissioners in the Colonies have reported upon each, and ascertained, not only the prices which ought to be offered, but the peculiar character of the different localities, and the eligibility of the estates for immediate and advantageous settlement.

The Commissioners have the satisfaction to report, that they expect to send a body of Emigrants to Prince Edward's Island before the close of the present season; and to carry out their operations upon an extensive scale in the spring and summer of the ensuing year.

Having immediate reference to the completion of the purchases already made, the advances which may be rendered necessary to promote Emigration to the properties of the Association, and their improvement and colonization, as likewise to carry out the pending arrangements in Western Canada, the Commissioners propose an issue of 10,000 Shares in the Capital Stock of the Association, in this Country, and an equal amount in Canada, the latter to be subject to the restrictions against sale and transfer before particularized.

The attention of the Deputation having been immediately directed to the wants and necessities of the Industrial Classes—not only by actual observation, but by the anxieties manifested by that truly important body the working Clergy of Scotland, and in England, for the improvement of the social condition of the people,—they submitted to the Commissioners the expediency of combining with the objects of the Association a provident institution, whereby a BENE-

VOLENT FUND might be created by donations and subscriptions, and the contributions of labourers and artisans be effectually accumulated, and made applicable to the furtherance of Emigration upon a large scale, and whereby the actual state of the Industrial Classes might be improved, under the guidance of true philanthropy, and their social condition rendered independent of that degrading state of pauperism by which so large a body is now debased.

The Commissioners acting upon the recommendation, which had their cordial approbation, and which they are satisfied will be fully appreciated by the Meeting, are actively proceeding with the arrangements for this adjunct of the Association,—the Universal Provident Institution; which may, in the first instance, require the aid of the parent establishment, but which will ultimately afford it immense monetary support; some of the leading principles of which are to promote and extend Emigration by the donations and subscriptions of the benevolent, in aid of the savings and accumulations of the labourer and artisan; and the great and extended objects of which are, the advancement of the moral and social condition of the Industrial Classes.

The Council having taken the Report into consideration, and deliberated upon the same :

On the Motion of Major Gen. the Hon. SIR JAMES COCKBURN, Bart., Seconded by NEIL MALCOLM, Esq., of Poltalloch, it was unanimously resolved :—

That the Report now presented be adopted, and acted upon; and that a Subscription be immediately opened for Shares in the Capital Stock.

On the Motion of the Hon. SIR W. OGILVIE, Bart., Seconded by JAS. H. PETERS, Esq., Her Majesty's Solicitor-General of Prince Edward's Island, it was unanimously resolved :—

That the best thanks of this Association be conveyed to the

Lord Provosts of Edinburgh and Glasgow for their polite attention in presiding over the Meetings held in these Cities, and to the Provost of Paisley, and to Dr. Alison, Sir William Drysdale, the Hon. Sir John Campbell, Bart., the Very Reverend Principal Mac Farlane, the Rev. Dr. Aiton, Isaac Buchanar, Esq., Member of the Legislative Assembly in Canada, the Hon. Sir William Dunbar, Bart., Sheriff Alison, the Rev. Dr. Norman Macleod, the Hon. Sir John Cunningham Fairlie, Bart., William Murray, Esq., the Hon. Sir William Alex. Maxwell, Bart., W. Houstoun, Esq., the Rev. Dr. Burns, and the Rev. Mr. Baird, who respectively Moved and Seconded the Resolutions then carried; also to John Bowie, Esq., W. S., for his kind and valuable assistance.

It was proposed from the Chair, and unanimously resolved :—

That the thanks of the Council be given to the Deputation who proceeded to Scotland, viz., Sir Allan N. Macnab, Sir Richard Broun, Dr. Rolph, and W. Andrews, Esq., for the highly efficient and satisfactory manner in which they discharged their mission.

After a vote of thanks to his Grace the DUKE OF ARGYLL, for presiding on the occasion, the Council adjourned, subject to the call of the Board of Commissioners.

ARGYLL,

President.



British-American Association,

For Emigration and Colonization.

Capital £1,000,000., in £20. Shares.—Deposit £5. per Share.

Form of Application for Shares.

1842.

Gentlemen,

*I request that my Name may be inserted in the
Subscription List for Shares in the Capital Stock
of the BRITISH-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ; and the deposit
of £5. per Share on the number allotted to me shall be paid
to the Bankers of the Association when required.*

To the Commissioners of
The British-American Association,
29, New Bridge Street, Blackfriars, London.

